

# **Yearly Meeting 2026**

Friends House and online, Friday 1 – Monday 4 May 2026

#### December 2025

Dear Friends,

"We did conclude among ourselves to settle a meeting, to see one another's faces, and open our hearts one to another in the Truth of God once a year, as formerly it used to be."

- Yearly Meeting in London, 1668; Quaker faith & practice 6.02

Our Yearly Meeting sessions in May 2026 will take place at Friends House and online, from Friday 1 to Monday 4 May.

Yearly Meeting is an opportunity for us to spend time together in worship and discernment, seeking divine guidance as a community of Friends from meetings around Britain. Yearly Meeting "should be a focus for every facet of Quakerism, constantly reminding us of what it means to be a Quaker today". (Qf&p 6.05)

This year we will not end our Yearly Meeting on 4 May. The change to our pattern of Yearly Meeting sessions means that we will gather again, for one day each time, on 18 July (in Manchester) and 21 November (in London). We hope that this change, along with the choice of online or onsite attendance, will make our shared worship and discernment more inclusive and accessible for as many Friends as possible.

During our sessions in May we will consider the following, discerned by Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee after meeting with representatives of central committees and other Quaker groups:

In a divided world, what unites us as a Spirit-led community? How do we foster acceptance and belonging? As a Spirit-led community, how can we handle conflict well in a way that builds connections, nurtures community and finds common ground, overcoming divisiveness and polarisation?

We will also spend time on the arrangements needed for the change to our pattern of Yearly Meeting sessions and the laying down of Meeting for Sufferings, as well as hearing reports from different parts of our Quaker organisation.

I look forward to welcoming visitors from other Quaker communities around the world and from other faith communities in Britain. I look forward to spending time as a gathered community with

our visitors and with Quakers at Yearly Meeting for the first time and those who have attended many times before.

#### Children and young people at Yearly Meeting

Friends of all ages are welcome to participate in Yearly Meeting in session. There will also be Yearly Meeting programmes planned for children and young people:

- Children's Programme (0-11 year olds): non-residential, at Friends House. Registration opens Monday 12 January 2026 and closes Tuesday 7 April 2026.
- Young People @ Yearly Meeting (11-15 year olds): residential at Rock UK Frontier Centre, Northamptonshire, joining Yearly Meeting at Friends House on Monday 4 May. Registration opens Monday 12 January 2026 and closes Sunday 1 March 2026.
- Accompaniment for older teens (15-17 year olds): non-residential, at Friends House.
  Registration opens Monday 12 January 2026 and closes Tuesday 7 April 2026.

For further details, see: www.quaker.org.uk/ym.

## **Junior Yearly Meeting**

Junior Yearly Meeting will take place 3 – 7 April 2026 at the Pioneer Centre near Kidderminster for anyone born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2010. Registration for this event is separate from Yearly Meeting registration. See: <a href="www.quaker.org.uk/events/junior-yearly-meeting-2026">www.quaker.org.uk/events/junior-yearly-meeting-2026</a>. The deadline for area meetings to make nominations and for open place bookings is Monday 12 January.

#### **Registration for Yearly Meeting**

Please register in advance to attend Yearly Meeting, whether you plan to join us online or in Friends House. Registration will open on 12 January 2026. See: <a href="https://www.quaker.org.uk/ym">www.quaker.org.uk/ym</a>.

## Special interest meetings

Special interest meetings, organised by Quaker Recognised Bodies and central committees, will be held online between Friday 20 March and Thursday 26 March. Please register for Yearly Meeting, to receive details of these.

#### **Preparing for Yearly Meeting**

Documents to help you prepare for Yearly Meeting will be available on the Yearly Meeting website from January at <a href="www.quaker.org.uk/ym">www.quaker.org.uk/ym</a>. Preparation sessions will take place online between Monday 13 April and Friday 17 April starting at 19:30. Please register for Yearly Meeting to receive details of these.

We can all prepare for Yearly Meeting, also, by making connections between Friends who might be considering attending Yearly Meeting for the first time, or who might never have thought of attending, and Friends who can share their experience of one or many Yearly Meetings.

I am writing this letter in October 2025, so there's lots of planning still to do, but whatever happens between now and then, I look forward to spending time with you in spirit-led community in May 2026.

In friendship,

#### Fred Langridge

Yearly Meeting Clerk (nominate)